The Southern PATRIOT

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TRENDS

The American Medical Association, according to an AP story on October 2, said that Oscar R. Ewing, FSA Administrator, "falsely implied" that the AMA discriminates against Jews.

The AMA statement issued by Dr. George E. Lull, general manager, said Ewing "is now attempting to incite religious and racial matters in the manner of Hitler's Germany."

Ewing had said in a speech that "a study of 57 medical schools showed in 1946 these schools had 557 more students than in 1935, but that during these years the number of Jewish students had decreased by 408."

For further facts and figures on the scandal of our medical schools' un-American practices, see page 2.

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Eddie Macon, Negro junior at the College of the Pacific and often called "the fastest man in college football," was tackled by Jim Crow at Louisiana State University's stadium September 30 —and his team lost, 19-0.

More stinging than the loss of the game, however, is COP's knuckling down to the discriminatory preferences of their LSU rivals. Official releases stated that Macon was injured and could not play. The Pacific athletic public relations man, however, told newsmen privately that Macon's injuries were not serious enough to keep him from playing on defense and they had planned to use him that way—until LSU demurred.

Baton Rouge newspapers, even before word got out that Macon would not suit up, scrupulously kept their readers from learning that the West Coast club had a Negro on its roster by omitting all reference to him.

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After studying development of attitudes toward Negroes among white children, a survey came to this conclusion:

"It seems that attitudes toward Negroes are now chiefly determined not by contacts with Negroes, but by contact with the prevalent attitude toward Negroes."

*This is Vol. 8, No. 8. Through error, the Sept. issue was numbered 9 instead of 7.

Atlanta School Equality Suit Causes Loud, Hollow Uproar

On September 19 a Federal suit was filed against the Atlanta school board on behalf of 200 pupils and their parents seeking a permanent injunction to end the inequality of facilities in white and Negro schools and to permit the registration of Negro children in white schools.

This suit, one of the first to be brought on the secondary school level, aroused the ire of Governor Talmadge and his "wool-hat" regime—to no one's great surprise.

His Excellency offered the full resources of the state government in the fight against the suit, proclaiming:

"Ten years ago my late father, Eugene Talmadge, attempted to warn the people of Georgia of what was coming. The Northern-owned newspapers hooted and smeared him with everything they had.

"For the last four years I have been trying to fight the battle . . . and being smeared by Northern-owned newspapers and left-wingers."

Former acting governor, M. E. Thompson, concurred in a more restrained and melancholy vein. "Most unfortunate and regrettable," said he.

From more "liberal' sources, too, grief has been expressed over the court action.

Ralph McGill's *Atlanta Constitution*, in an editorial Sept. 21, entitled "The School Board Has Clean Hands" declared that by this court action "the Negroes have succeeded in alienating the support of a great many who have worked continuously through the years for equal schooling opportunities."

The school board, the editorialist states, "repeatedly has said its ultimate aim is the full equalization of facilities for white and Negro pupils. The record shows this is not an idle announcement or one voiced to placate the Negroes. It is one being carried out as fast as financial conditions will permit. There is no question of the Atlanta School Board's good faith."

Then the "record" is presented. And this "record" is a listing of expenditures and facilities for Negro schools over the past four or five years. And sure enough, an increase can be observed.

But nowhere is presented the figures for the city's white schools over the same period. We are given no basis for comparison between the per capita outlays for white and for Negro pupils.

For a "record" that purports to exemplify "equality" not even the most rudimentary concept of an "equation" is fulfilled.

Furthermore, this profound faith in the intentions of the school board is disputed by a statement filed with the state school officials in conjunction with the suit. In it, the parents who are the plaintiffs, list the numerous petitions and requests they have made over the years to this same Atlanta board and how they have been ignored.

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Atlanta School Suit

(Continued from page 1)

But then, let us assume, as the *Constitution* suggests we must, that financial limitations have thwarted these men of good will, as they must, at times, all men.

Can they not realize that this suit offers a real and beneficient solution to their monetary difficulties? The editorial treats "equality" of facilities in a manner that would allow one to substitute "duplication of facilities" with scant loss of meaning. Forgotten is the second part of the court petition which would, by permitting Negro children to attend the school of their choice, make "equality of facilities" mean "sharing of facilities."

In economic terms, the two shades of meaning make a big difference. If the latter sense of the term were to prevail, it is possible the expenses of the Atlanta board would be cut roughly in half.

We have here again the educational tragedy of limited funds being squandered to perpetuate the old, tired myth of "separate, but equal."

In reality, we suspect Ralph McGill, in his by-lined column appearing in the *Constitution*, is closer to the thought processes of the school board when he peruses various judicial decisions clearly favoring the plaintiffs in the suit and concludes, "Of course, as they say, there will be violence and bloodshed in some places if the court should rule out segregation and Negroes should attempt to enter schools. But let us face the fact there is always tomorrow and after the bloodshed the decision and the law will remain."

Mr. McGill's pious resignation to progress is not wholly unbecoming, but his preoccupation with bloodletting gives him away—and probably gives the school board away, too.

The board and Mr. McGill mean well, but they don't want any trouble. They are well-informed enough and intelligent enough to see what tomorrow will bring. But they do not have a high enough regard for their own neighbors and fellow citizens to prepare, in the manner their positions of public trust permit them to, for that tomorrow.

Having no faith in the people, they talk of Blood Flowing In The Streets, instead.

Most tragically, in their timidity to exercise their power as interpreters and executors of the law, when situations that they fear come into being, they are often of their own creation.

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'Quota-Minded' Med Schools Turn Down 12 of 13 Jews

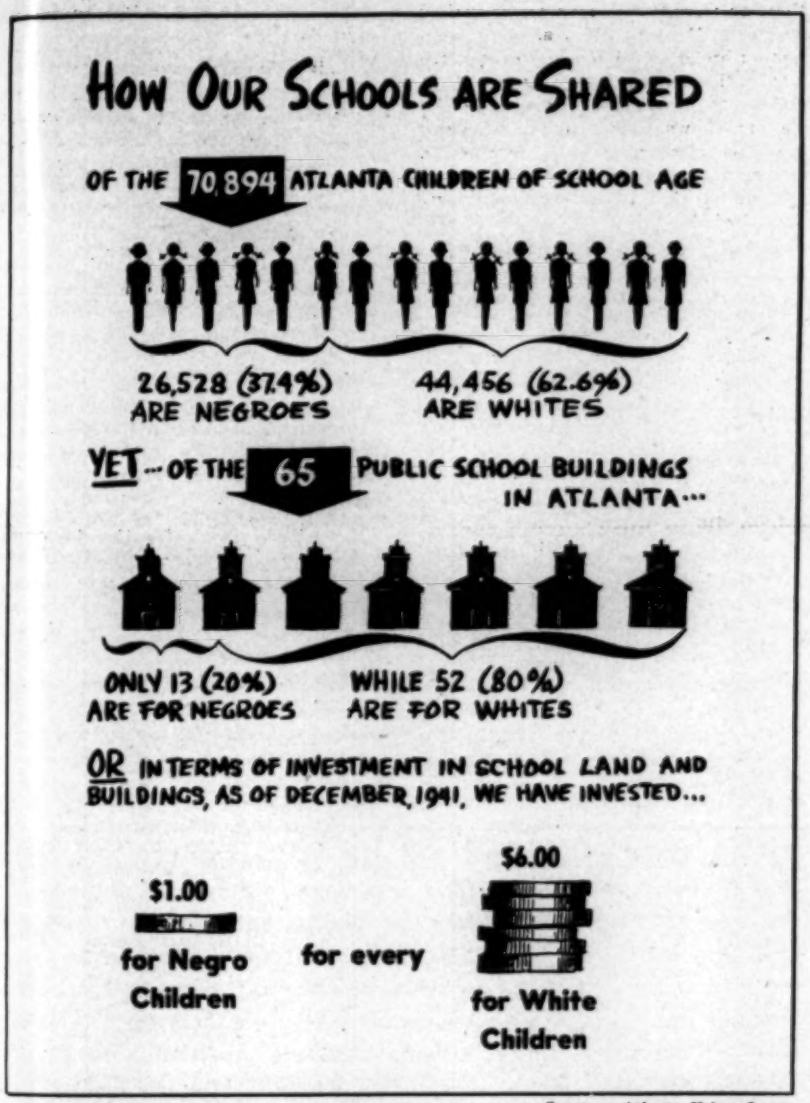
Three out of every four non-Jewish applicants are accepted for admission to medical school, but only one out of every 13 Jews — proof, if proof is needed, of "quota thinking" by medical school admission committees throughout the country. A recent survey of 4 medical schools in Philadelphia demonstrated that "the percentage of Jewish graduates has steadily declined since 1936." Dr. Frank Kingdon stated, in 1945, that "the number of Jewish students in medical schools has been reduced by roughly 50% in the last 20 years."

"Quota thinking" manifested itself first in the growth of medical school application forms. Simple inquiries concerning scholastic ability were supplemented and complicated so that all sorts of information was requested of the applicant, most of it having no bearing on his qualifications to practice medicine. Questions about religion, race, and ethnic origin suddenly appeared. Applicants were asked their mother's maiden name, their "racial lineage," and their "ancestry." It became mandatory for each applicant to submit a photograph with his application. The result is that the Jewish applicant today must be better qualified than the non-Jewish applicant in order to receive equal consideration for acceptance to medical school.

There has been no apology by deans of medical schools for the discriminatory quota system imposed against Jewish applicants. On the contrary, when they are not denying that such a system exists in the face of all statistical evidence to the contrary, these deans make frank attempts to justify it. Dr. William Ladd, when he was dean of the Cornell school of medicine, said in a letter: "We limit the number of Jews admitted to each class to roughly the proportion of Jews in the population in this state, which is a higher proportion than in any part of the country. That means that we take in from 10-15% Jews."

Dean Willard C. Rappleye, head of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, has summed this position up by stating, "there is general belief that the representation of the various social, religious, and racial groups in medicine ought to be kept fairly parallel with the population makeup."

The impressive statistical evidence of a steady decline in the number of Jewish medical school students proving deliberate discrimination, invites the easy conclusion that the situation is hopelessly bleak for the prospective student of Jewish faith. There is hope, however, that the situation will brighten. The illumination cast upon the picture of discrimination by large segments of the American people have already had some results. Already, New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts have passed fair educational practices laws, outlawing discrimination in education on account of race or religion. Already many medical schools have removed blatantly discriminatory questions from their application blanks. Medical school deans who proclaim the impartiality of their admissions policies


HOW OUR SCHOOLS ARE SHARED
OF THE 70,894 ATLANTA CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE
26,528 (37.4%) ARE NEGROES
44,456 (62.6%) ARE WHITES
YET ... OF THE 65 PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN ATLANTA ...
ONLY 13 (20%) ARE FOR NEGROES
WHILE 52 (80%) ARE FOR WHITES
OR IN TERMS OF INVESTMENT IN SCHOOL LAND AND BUILDINGS, AS OF DECEMBER, 1941, WE HAVE INVESTED ...
$1.00
for Negro Children
for every
$6.00
for White Children

—Courtesy Atlanta Urban League

The chart above shows the picture as it was some years ago. To be sure there has been some improvement since then, but how long it will take to reach "equality" may be judged from a report by the Atlanta Urban League showing that the differential of plant investment per white pupil compared to that for the Negro pupil was $310 in 1946-47; $230 in 1947-48; $353 in 1948-49; and $409 in 1949-50. The figures cover both high schools and elementary schools.

may be expected to apply impartial policies eventually.

But the attack on discrimination must continue. It is hardly necessary to point out that if the cause of democracy is going to be served, the schools will have to re-examine and alter their discriminatory approach. In the words of the President's Commission on Higher Education,

"It is well to repeat the warning, that in determining opportunities for education, it is not sound democratic doctrine to invoke the argument of maintaining the same ratios of minority group members enrolled in colleges to total population numbers. The only defensible basis is that total ability and interest—rather than quotas or ratios, however determined—be the criterion of admission to institutions of higher learning."

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*Abstracted from "The Quota System in Medical Schools, An Analysis of the Existing Evidence," a mimeographed report by the Commission on Law and Social Action of the American Jewish Congress, 1834 Broadway, New York, N. Y. For copies of the complete report, write to Dr. Will Maslow, Director.

Judge Rebuffs Violence Bluff

In Oklahoma City, an attorney seeking an injunction to prevent the sale of property to a Negro, threatened "there will be riots, bombings and breach of the peace". But Judge Baker Melone was unimpressed and sternly warned that if any of the petitioners either in or out of his court resorted to the unlawful actions suggested, they would be criminaly liable under the statutes and would be prosecuted. Plaintiff testified she would have no objections to Negroes living in the block as servants but not as owners.

* * *

U. S. District Justice A. B. Conger, of Georgia, has sharply criticised the resolution by the Democratic Party of Georgia that it would never permit the mixing of the races, regardless of rulings by the Supreme Court of the land.

In a charge to a Federal grand jury Judge Conger said, "The resolution is the sputum of a negligible, vicious, vociferous, selfish few, who live and thrive and prosper upon turmoil, strife, confusion, hate, prejudice and intolerance.

"It is most . . . unseemingly and arogant for a small segment of the people of this State . . . To propose and have passed by a Democratic convention of Georgians a resolution to disregard, disobey, challenge and contest decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States."

Jack Tarver, columnist for the *Atlanta Constitution*, commented, "His (Judge Conger's) example should serve to strengthen and encourage the great timorous majority of us who, while recognizing right from wrong, are reluctant to speak our consciences lest the smear artists loose their rotten wrath upon us".

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Community Churches Unite

While the World Baptist Alliance was calling upon its 18 million members to remove from their worship and fellowship all forms of segregation and discrimination "based on race, color or culture", another religious group was giving practical expression to that sentiment. On the campus of Lake Forest College, Illinois, the Negro Biennial Council of Community Churches and the white National Council of Community Churches merged into the new International Council of Community Churches with an interracial staff.